



REC
SKW

PTO/SB/30 (5/2000)

Approved for use through xx/xx/xxxx. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/815,573
Filing Date	March 22, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hector F. DeLuca
Group Art Unit	1617
Examiner Name	Shaojia A. Jiang
Attorney Docket Number	1256-00721

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RTE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply _____
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) _____
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) _____
 - iv. Other _____
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 - b. Other _____
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02.1000
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) _____
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) _____
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 enclosed.
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

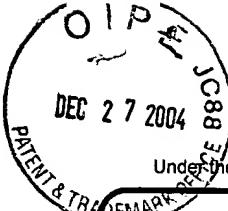
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/ Type)	Thomas M. Wozny	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,922
Signature		Date	12/22/2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop - RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the 22nd day of December, 2004.

Name (Print/ Type)	Jo Ann Kuczynski		
Signature		Date	12-22-04

**PROCESSING FEE
Under 37 CFR 1.17(i)
TRANSMITTAL**

(Fees are subject to annual revision)

Send completed form to: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/815,573
Filing Date	March 22, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hector F. DeLuca
Art Unit	1617
Examiner Name	Shaojia A. Jiang
Attorney Docket Number	1256-00721

**Enclosed is a paper filed under 37 CFR _____ that requires a processing fee (37 CFR 1.17(i)).
Payment of \$_____ is enclosed.**

This form should be included with the above-mentioned paper and faxed or mailed to the Office using the appropriate Mail Stop, if applicable. For transmittal of petition fees under 37 CFR 1.17(f), (g) or (h), see form PTO/SB/17p.

Payment of Fees (small entity amounts are NOT available for the petition fees)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. 01.2000:
 processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) any deficiency of fees and credit of any overpayments
Enclose a duplicative copy of this form for fee processing.

Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 is enclosed.

Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 or equivalent enclosed). Do not provide credit card information on this form.

**Processing Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(i): Fee \$130 Fee Code 1808 for all,
Except for § 1.221 papers (Fee Code 1803)**

For papers filed under:

§ 1.28(c)(3) - for processing a non-itemized fee deficiency based on an error in small entity status.
§ 1.41 - for supplying the name or names of the inventor or inventors after the filing date without an oath or declaration as prescribed by § 1.63, except in provisional applications.
§ 1.48 - for correcting inventorship, except in provisional applications.
§ 1.52(d) - for processing a nonprovisional application filed with a specification in a language other than English.
§ 1.53(b)(3) - to convert a provisional application filed under § 1.53(c) into a nonprovisional application under § 1.53(b).
§ 1.55 - for entry of late priority papers.
§ 1.99(e) - for processing a belated submission under § 1.99.
§ 1.103(b) - for requesting limited suspension of action, continued prosecution application (§ 1.53(d)).
§ 1.103(c) - for requesting limited suspension of action, request for continued examination (§ 1.114).
§ 1.103(d) - for requesting deferred examination of an application.
§ 1.217 - for processing a redacted copy of a paper submitted in the file of an application in which a redacted copy was submitted for the patent application publication.
§ 1.221 - for requesting voluntary publication or republication of an application. **Fee Code 1803**
§ 1.291(c)(5) - for processing a second or subsequent protest by the same real party in interest.
§ 1.497(d) - for filing an oath or declaration pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4) naming an inventive entity different from the inventive entity set forth in the international stage.
§ 3.81 - for a patent to issue to assignee, assignment submitted after payment of the issue fee.

Signature

Thomas M. Wozny

Typed or printed name

12/22/2004

Date

28,922

Registration No., if applicable

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 5 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.